

BENDER'S X-RAY EYES BEAT GIANTS

By Tip Wright.

Chief Bender's black eyes won the 1911 world's series for the Athletics. The Chippewa's keen vision penetrated the bulwarks of the Giants like an X-ray and shattered their defense.

The Athletics should have won four straight games. The "break in the luck" and Collins' momentary failure to think, threw away the first, and an injury to Coombs lost the other.

When I say the Athletics knew what almost every ball pitched was, before it left the pitcher's hand — whether a curve or

The Mack men hit wickedly. They backed up the Giant outfield to the fence to get balls that threatened to clear the barrier. In the sixth, when Collins doubled and Baker hit for his home run, the stand buzzed:

"Collins tipped off Meyer's signal to Baker." So it seemed, but it was not the solution.

Three men did the tipping. They were Bender, Coombs and Hartzel. This day it was Bender and Hartzel. They didn't steal signals from Chief Meyers. They used their eyes to SEE what the pitcher would throw.



straight ball—their batting is explained.

Mathewson's skill prevented a bombardment in the first game. He and every other Giant pitcher save Crandall was battered harder than the box scores show.

Before the first game ended, press box comment was "The Athletics are playing in tough luck."

When Marquard pitched his first game it was patent that the Athletics had on their batting shoes. Although they did not get many hits, they were driving the ball viciously.

Each of them could SEE whether the pitcher would throw a fast ball or a curve before he let go of the ball.

Events prove this. McGraw thought they were getting Meyer's signals and changed the code, but the hitting did not let up. It would have had they been catching the catcher's signals.

Ball players admit of two deliveries—the fast ball and curve—but there are several curves. There is the big, slow, "round house" outcurve, the quick-breaking, hook outcurve, the out drop,